

CLAIMS AMENDMENT

1. (currently amended): A nude mouse model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, wherein said mouse has histologically intact human neoplastic tissue of at least 1 mm³ in size transplanted onto an organ of said mouse which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and
has sufficient immuno-deficiency to allow said transplanted neoplastic tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic the progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

including the pattern of metastasis

2. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 1 wherein said neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

3. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 2 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human breast tissue.

4. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 3 wherein said human neoplastic breast tissue is implanted in the mammary fat pad of the mouse.

5. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 2 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human ovarian tissue.

6. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 5 wherein said human neoplastic ovarian tissue is implanted in the ovarian capsule of the mouse.

7. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 5 wherein said human neoplastic ovarian tissue is transplanted by securing to the surface of the mouse ovary at least two pieces of neoplastic tissue in close proximity to each other.

8. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 2 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human pleural tissue.

9. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 8 wherein said neoplastic tissue is implanted in the parietal pleura of the mouse.

10. (original): A nude mouse model according to claim 9 wherein said neoplastic tissue is implanted in the visceral pleura of the mouse.

11. (currently amended): A method of generating a nude mouse model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, said method comprising:
transplanting histologically intact human neoplastic tissue of at least 1 mm³ in size transplanted onto an organ of a nude mouse which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and
allowing said transplanted tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

12. (original): A method of generating a nude mouse according to claim 11 wherein said human neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

13. (currently amended): A nude rodent model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, wherein said rodent has histologically intact human neoplastic tissue of at least 1 mm³ in size transplanted onto an organ of said rodent which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and
has sufficient immuno-deficiency to allow said transplanted neoplastic tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic the progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

14. (original): The nude rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 13, wherein said rodent is a rat.

15. (currently amended): An immunodeficient rodent model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a

primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, wherein said rodent has histologically intact human neoplastic tissue of at least 1 mm³ in size transplanted onto an organ of said rodent which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and

has sufficient immuno-deficiency to allow said transplanted neoplastic tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic the progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

16. (original): The immunodeficient rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 15, wherein said rodent is a rat.

17. (original): The immunodeficient rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 15, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

18. (original): The immunodeficient rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 17, wherein said rodent is a severe combined immunodeficient (SCID) mouse.

19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended): A method of generating a nude rodent model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, said method comprising:

transplanting histologically intact human neoplastic tissue of at least 1 mm³ in size onto an organ of a nude rodent which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and

allowing said transplanted tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

21. (original): The method of generating a nude rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 20, wherein said rodent is a rat.

22. (currently amended): A method of generating an immunodeficient rodent model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, said method comprising:

transplanting histologically intact human neoplastic tissue of at least 1 mm³ in size onto an organ of an immunodeficient rodent which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and

allowing said transplanted tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

23. (original): The method of generating an immunodeficient rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 22, wherein said rodent is a rat.

24. (original): The method of generating an immunodeficient rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 22, wherein said rodent is a mouse.

25. (original): The method of generating an immunodeficient rodent model for human neoplastic disease of claim 24, wherein said rodent is a severe combined immunodeficient (SCID) mouse.

26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended): A nude rodent model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, wherein said rodent has histologically intact human neoplastic tissue transplanted onto an organ of said rodent which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and

has sufficient immuno-deficiency to allow said transplanted neoplastic tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic the progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

28. (currently amended): An immunodeficient rodent model for progression of human neoplastic disease, the progression of said disease being characterized by growth of a primary tumor site and metastasis to secondary tumor sites, wherein said rodent has histologically intact human neoplastic tissue transplanted onto an organ of said rodent which corresponds to the human organ from which said tissue is originally obtained; and has sufficient immuno-deficiency to allow said transplanted neoplastic tissue to grow at said primary site and metastasize to said secondary tumor sites, so as to mimic the progression of the neoplastic disease in the human donor.

29. (canceled)

30. (original): A nude rodent model according to claim 13 wherein said neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

31. (original): A nude rodent model according to claim 30 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human breast tissue.

32. (original): nude rodent model according to claim 30 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human ovarian tissue.

33. (original): A nude rodent model according to claim 30 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human pleural tissue.

34. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 15 wherein said neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

35. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 34 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human breast tissue.

36. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 34 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human ovarian tissue.

37. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 34 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human pleural tissue.

38-41. (canceled)

42. (original): The method according to claim 20 wherein said neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

43. (original): The method according to claim 42 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human breast tissue.

44. (original): The method according to claim 42 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human ovarian tissue.

45. (original): The method according to claim 42 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human pleural tissue.

46. (original): The method according to claim 22 wherein said neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

47. (original): The method according to claim 46 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human breast tissue.

48. (original): The method according to claim 46 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human ovarian tissue.

49. (original): The method according to claim 46 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human pleural tissue.

50-53. (canceled)

54. (original): A nude rodent model according to claim 27 wherein said neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

55. (original): A nude rodent model according to claim 54 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human breast tissue.

56. (original): A nude rodent model according to claim 54 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human ovarian tissue.

57. (original): A nude rodent model according to claim 54 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human pleural tissue.

58. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 28 wherein said neoplastic tissue is selected from breast tissue, ovarian tissue or pleural tissue.

59. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 58 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human breast tissue.

60. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 58 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human ovarian tissue.

61. (original): An immunodeficient rodent model according to claim 58 wherein said neoplastic tissue is obtained from human pleural tissue.

62-65. (canceled)